

NEWS RELEASE

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Grand Jury Charges Former Employee of Armored Car Company with Stealing \$96,000 and Money Laundering

Rock Island, IL- Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury today returned an indictment charging Shawn Lynn Beaird, age 24, last known address 2731 12th Street, Moline, Illinois, with stealing money from an interstate armored car; transportation of stolen money; and, laundering the stolen money.

Beaird was arrested on June 14, 2006, and charged by criminal complaint. The affidavit filed in support of the complaint alleges that in September 20, 2004, Beaird was employed as a messenger in the Davenport, Iowa branch location of United Armored Services, a company that provides armored car services for financial institutions and other commercial businesses. In that capacity, Beaird was assigned to carry bags to and from the truck and the customer business on a route that included various food stores in Silvis, Moline and East Moline, Illinois. According to the affidavit, on September 20, 2004, Beaird reported that a bag containing approximately \$51,000 in cash was missing. In its investigation of the missing cash, the armored car company determined that approximately \$96,000 was missing from Beaird's route.

The affidavit and indictment allege Beaird used at least \$46,000 in stolen money to purchase a 2004 Chevrolet Corvette on or about September 23, 2004.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas J. Shields ordered Beaird be detained pending trial following a detention hearing on June 19, 2006, in federal court in Rock Island, Illinois.

If convicted, each offense, stealing money from interstate armored car; transportation of stolen money; and money laundering, carries a maximum statutory penalty of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

The charges are the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Illinois State Police. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew J. Cannon.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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